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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	VNOS Post in Soviet Sector of Berlin	DATE DISTR.	23 February 1955
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	25X1

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THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI		AEC					
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REPORT

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. Jan 7 1955

SUBJECT VNOS Post in Soviet Sector of Berlin

NO. OF PAGES 5

DATE OF INFORMATION

REFERENCES: 25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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Location

See page 4 for pinpoint location of the [] VNOS post [] 25X1

1. The VNOS Post, a roofless wooden tower with overall height of 10 m.
2. 2nd Rifle Co. Hq. building where six VNOS personnel were quartered.
3. Soviet-French Sector boundary.

Operating Procedure

1. Six persons including a master sergeant were assigned to the VNOS post. They lived in the company headquarters building (Point 2, page 4) and received their mail through the company post office, i.e., Military Post Office 61491b [] 25X1
2. The six persons assigned to the VNOS post worked in three teams, with two men in each team. The day was divided into four-hour shifts, beginning at 0600. While one team worked, the other two teams were off duty. During each four-hour shift, one man of the team on duty served as telegrapher in company headquarters where the communications equipment was located while the other served in the tower. During darkness, the man normally in the tower stayed in the yard near company headquarters to keep a listening watch. [] 25X1

[] A sample schedule for one man, however, is given below.

0600 - 1000:	off duty
1000 - 1400:	observation duty in tower
1400 - 1800:	off duty
1800 - 2200:	off duty
2200 - 0200:	observation duty in yard
0200 - 0600:	telegrapher duty in company headquarters

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3. The soldier posted in the tower communicated by telephone with the VNOS man in the company headquarters communications section who then communicated with VNOS company headquarters by CW (key). All VNOS personnel were trained to use CW.
4. The VNOS man on duty in the communications center had radio transmitting and receiving equipment and maintained a listening watch on his receiver.
5. The observer on duty in the observation post was equipped with binoculars, a 50 cm.-diameter metal circle, graduated into 360°, and was equipped with an arrow for determining the direction of flight, various identification aids, such as aircraft silhouettes and pictures of aircraft, and a telephone to relay information to the VNOS man on duty as communicator in company headquarters (Point 2, page 4). He transmitted information on all planes, both friendly and hostile, including information on French aircraft flying from the French air-drome in the vicinity of the post. This information included the number of aircraft, type, height, course, speed, etc.
6. [redacted] to insure coordination the VNOS platoon commanders were located at VNOS company headquarters, thereby assuring immediate and coordinated action on the part of the company headquarters.
7. The platoon commander visited the post two or three times each month. [redacted] driver [redacted] drove a great distance to get to the post, i.e., approximately 200 km.
8. During his monthly visits, the platoon commander usually brought replacements for those of the six-man detachment who were due to return to the company area for further training.

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Subordination of VNOS Post

9. Prior to August 1954, this post belonged to a platoon which was part of a VNOS Company. In August 1954, [redacted] the VNOS Company had then become a "radar" regiment and that this regiment was formed to be responsible for providing air warning information for all of Germany; it was controlled from Moscow. [redacted] the original company had not changed its mission or structure and that other units were being added to it to form the new regiment. This regiment was to have radar equipment as well as the observation posts. The regimental commander had allegedly arrived and was actively forming the regiment. The organization of the regiment, its strength, the location of units, etc., were unknown [redacted]

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Extension of Tour of PVO Personnel

10. In August 1954, [redacted] the tour of duty of all VNOS personnel had been extended from three to four years in order to give them time to become more proficient in their specialties. This included AA units assigned to PVO, or [redacted] "those AA units subordinate to the Air Force."
11. [redacted] all personnel at [redacted] had broken restrictions and all got violently drunk when informed of this extension. The reason given to them for the extension was that their training took so long that additional service was essential to permit them to practice and perfect what they had learned.

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12. [] no connection or coordination of VNOS personnel with ground force units or air force units. [] VNOS did not interfere with infantry matters nor did the infantry concern itself with VNOS matters. 25X1

Estimate of Unit Strengths (Hearsay)

13. [] each platoon had approximately 28 persons assigned and was responsible for four observation towers. [] estimated [] company's strength at 100 personnel. 25X1

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Miscellaneous

14. The six personnel in the VNOS detachment each had from 7 to 10 years of education.

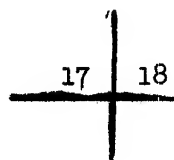
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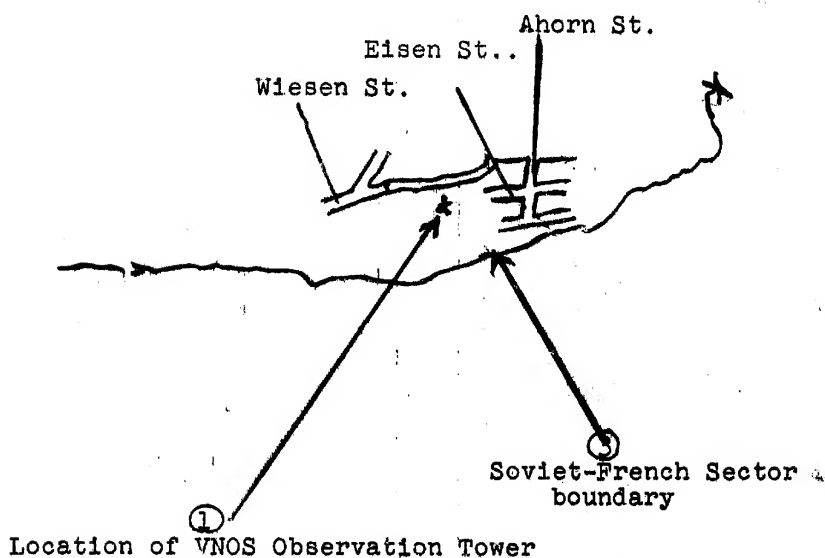
Overlay of Schwarz Stadt Plan,
Gross Berlin, Scale 1:25,000,
French Section 20 Reinickendorf.
Pinpoint location of VNOS Post
and billets of VNOS detachment.



Company Hq where VNOS
personnel were quartered and
from which intercept data was sent by VNOS
personnel by CW

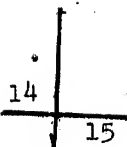
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Location of VNOS Observation Tower

Soviet-French Sector
boundary

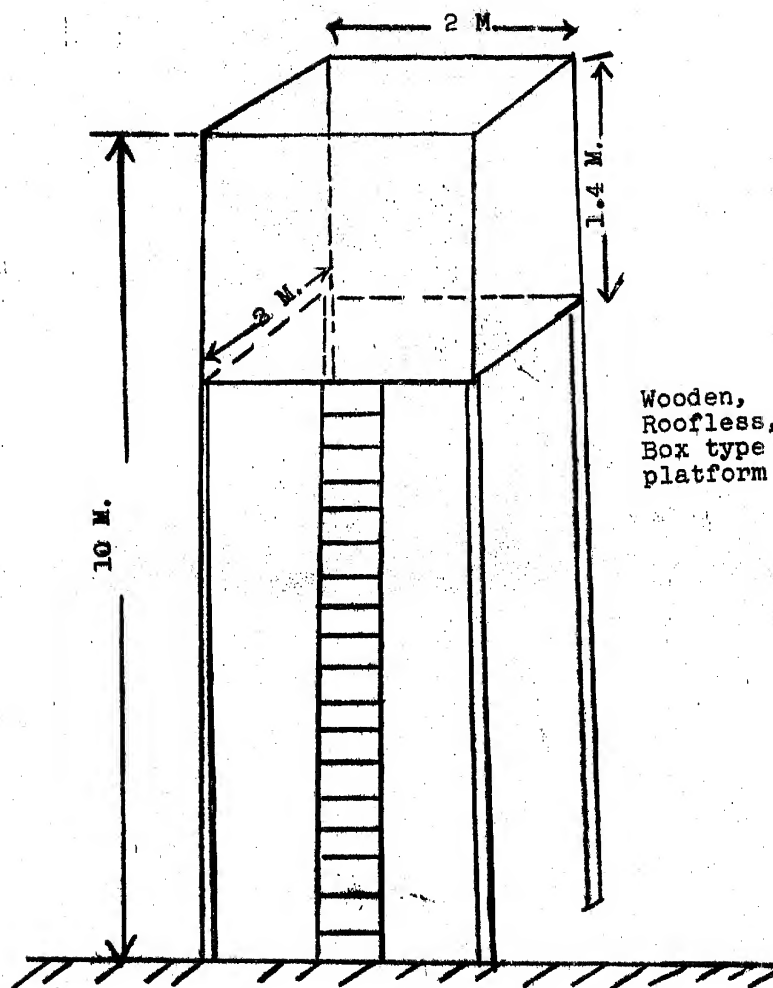


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VNOS Observation Tower,
two meters square, a roofless
wooden box



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